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c 7 Age of Majority and Accountability Act

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CHAPTER 7

Age of Majority and Accountability Act

1.—(1) Every person attains the age of majority and ceases to be a minor on attaining the age of eighteen years. Age of majority

(2) Every person who on the 1st day of September, 1971 has attained the age of eighteen years, but has not attained the age of twenty-one years, has attained the age of majority and ceased to be a minor. 1971, c. 98, s. 1. Reduction in age of majority

2. Section 1 applies for the purpose of any rule of law in respect of which the Legislature has jurisdiction. 1971, c. 98, s. 2. Application of s. 1

3.—(1) In the absence of a definition or of an indication of a contrary intention, section 1 applies for the construction of the expression "adult", "full age", "infant", "infancy", "minor", "minority" and similar expressions in, References to "minor" and similar expressions

(a) any Act of the Legislature or any regulation, rule, order or by-law made under an Act of the Legislature enacted or made before, on or after the 1st day of September, 1971; and

(b) any deed, will or other instrument made on or after the 1st day of September, 1971.

(2) The use of any expression set out in subsection (1) or any similar expression shall not, in itself, be taken to indicate a contrary intention for the purposes of this section without some further indication of a contrary intention. 1971, c. 98, s. 3. Idem

4. Where, by any Act of the Legislature, an Act of Parliament or any provision thereof is made to apply in respect of any Act or matter or thing over which the Legislature has jurisdiction, in applying that Act of Parliament, or that provision thereof in respect of that Act, matter or thing, any reference to the age of twenty-one years in the Act of Parliament or that provision thereof shall be read as a reference to the age of eighteen years. 1971, c. 98, s. 5. References in Federal Acts adopted by reference

References
in court
orders

5.—(1) In any order or direction of a court made before the 1st day of September, 1971, in the absence of an indication of a contrary intention, a reference to the age of twenty-one years or to any age between eighteen and twenty-one years or to any of the expressions referred to in subsection 3 (1), and similar expressions shall be read as a reference to the age of eighteen years.

Idem

(2) The use of the words “twenty-one years” in an order or direction referred to in subsection (1) shall not in itself be taken to indicate a contrary intention for the purposes of this section without some further indication of a contrary intention. 1971, c. 98, s. 6.

Computing
age

6.—(1) The time at which a person attains a particular age expressed in years shall be on the commencement of the relevant anniversary of the date of his birth.

Idem

(2) This section applies only where the relevant anniversary falls on a day after the 1st day of September, 1971, and in relation to any enactment, deed, will or other instrument, has effect subject to any provision therein. 1971, c. 98, s. 7.

Existing
wills

7. Notwithstanding any rule of law, a will or codicil executed before the 1st day of September, 1971 shall not be treated for the purposes of this Act as made on or after that day by reason only that the will or codicil is confirmed by a codicil executed on or after that day. 1971, c. 98, s. 8.

Enactments
incorporated
in existing
deeds, etc.

8. This Act does not affect the construction of a provision of an Act of the Legislature or a regulation, rule, order or by-law made thereunder that is incorporated in and has effect as part of a deed, will or other instrument if the construction of the deed, will or other instrument is not affected by section 3. 1971, c. 98, s. 9.

Accumula-
tions

9. This Act does not invalidate any direction for accumulation expressed in a settlement or other disposition made by deed, will or other instrument and executed before the 1st day of September, 1971 that, but for this Act, was a permissible period of accumulation. 1971, c. 98, s. 10.

Perpetuities

10. This Act does not apply so as to affect the law relating to perpetuities. 1971, c. 98, s. 11.

Actions and
defences

11. This Act does not prejudice a right of action or a defence to an action based upon the age of a party and that was in existence on the 1st day of September, 1971 and, not-

withstanding this Act, the law that was in force immediately prior to that day applies in that case. 1971, c. 98, s. 12.

12. Where, on the 1st day of September, 1971, a person has, Limitation of actions

- (a) attained the age of eighteen years but has not attained the age of twenty-one years; and
- (b) a right of action in respect of which the period of limitation applicable to the bringing of the action would have commenced to run on his attaining the age of twenty-one years had this Act not been enacted,

the period of limitation in respect of that right of action commences to run on the 1st day of September, 1971. 1971, c. 98, s. 13.

13. A person who has not attained the age of eighteen years may be described as a minor instead of as an infant. Persons under 18 described as minors
1971, c. 98, s. 15.

